

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 33-34 and 40. Please amend claims 21, 27-32, and 35-38. The claims are as follows:

- 1.(Withdrawn) A method for making a conductive path in a laminate structure hole comprising the steps of:
 - providing a laminate with a top surface and a bottom surface and having at least one hole;
 - providing a conductive element;
 - inserting the conductive element into the at least one hole in the laminate; and
 - deforming the conductive element within the at least one hole in the laminate to retain the conductive element within the at least one hole.
2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the deforming of the conductive element further includes forming an electrode at the top surface of the laminate.
3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one hole is a through hole extending from the top surface to the lower surface of the laminate.
4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the conductive element is a sphere.
5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 4, wherein the sphere is solid or hollow.

6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one hole is a blind via.
7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the conductive element includes a conductive surface covering a base element.
8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the conductive surface is selected from the group consisting of copper, brass, gold, and bronze.
9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the base element is selected from the group consisting of glass, rubber, and plastic.
10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the conductive element is a cylinder.
11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the cylinder is solid or hollow.
12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the conductive element is selected from the group consisting of copper, brass, gold, and bronze.
13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one hole is a buried via.
14. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:
embedding a conductive element into a laminate, wherein the conductive element

substantially maintains a shape while the laminate deforms to accommodate the conductive element.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the conductive element includes a conductive surface covering a base element.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the conductive surface is selected from the group consisting of copper, brass, gold, and bronze.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the base element is selected from the group consisting of glass, rubber, and plastic.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the conductive element is selected from the group consisting of copper, brass, gold, and bronze.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the conductive element is a sphere or a cylinder.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the conductive element is hollow.

21. (Currently amended) A method of forming a conductive path within a laminate, comprising:
providing an opening in the laminate;

pressing a conductive element into the opening such that a portion of at least one end of the conductive element extends beyond a surface of the laminate; and

applying a compressive pressure to the portion of the at least one end of the conductive element, ~~whereby~~ wherein the compressive pressure applied to the portion of the at least one end of the conductive element forms a contact pad extending beyond the surface of the laminate, and wherein the conductive element includes an inner element covered by an outer element.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the opening is a hole.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the conductive element is a sphere.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the conductive element is a cylinder.

25. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

providing a plurality of laminates;

embedding at least one conductive element into each laminate;

forming a contact pad on each end of each conductive element;

bonding each laminate together to form a stack; and

wherein adjoining contact pads press together and form an electrical connection.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25, further including a conductive adhesive applied between adjoining contact pads.

27. (Currently amended) A structure for interconnection between circuit layers, comprising:

a laminate having a conductive inner plane; and

a conductive pad on a surface of the laminate, wherein a bottom surface of the conductive pad is in direct mechanical contact with the surface of the laminate;

a conductive element having a lower portion and an upper portion, wherein the lower portion of the conductive element is embedded into the laminate, wherein [[a]] the upper portion of the conductive element forms at least one contact pad extending beyond a extends above the surface of the laminate, and wherein the conductive element includes an inner element covered by an outer element wherein the conductive pad circumscribes the upper portion of the conductive element, and wherein the conductive element electrically connects the conductive inner plane to an outer the surface of the laminate, wherein the lower portion of the conductive element comprises a conductive material, and wherein the upper portion of the conductive element comprises the conductive material.

28. (Currently amended) The structure of claim 27, further including an opening in the laminate that the conductive ~~object~~ element is pressed into.

29. (Currently amended) The structure of claim ~~28~~ 27, wherein ~~the opening is a hole in the laminate~~ a top surface of the conductive pad is coplanar with a top surface of the upper portion of the conductive element.

30. (Currently amended) The structure of claim 27, wherein part of the upper portion of the
conductive element is a sphere or a cylinder extends above the conductive pad.

31. (Currently amended) The structure of claim 27, wherein the ~~outer element of the~~ conductive
~~element is a material is~~ selected from the group consisting of: glass gold, copper, brass, and
bronze.

32. (Currently amended) The structure of claim 27 30, wherein the ~~laminate is selected from the~~
~~group consisting of epoxy, cyanate-epoxy blend, and glass reinforced carrier~~ part of the upper
portion of the conductive element that extends above the conductive pad is on, and in direct
mechanical contact with, a top surface of the conductive pad.

33-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently amended) The structure of claim 27 30, wherein the ~~inner element of the~~ conductive
~~element comprises a material selected from the group consisting of: glass, rubber and plastic~~ part of the
upper portion of the conductive element that extends above the conductive pad is not on a top
surface of the conductive pad.

36. (Currently amended) A method of forming a conductive path within a laminate, comprising:
providing an opening in the laminate;
pressing a conductive element into the opening such that a portion of at least one end of

the conductive element extends beyond a surface of the laminate; and

applying a compressive pressure to the portion of the at least one end of the conductive element, ~~whereby wherein~~ the compressive pressure applied to the portion of the at least one end of the conductive element forms a contact pad extending beyond a surface of the laminate.

37. (Currently amended) A structure for interconnection between circuit layers, comprising:

a first laminate having a first conductive element embedded into the first laminate wherein a portion of the first conductive element forms at least one contact pad extending beyond a surface of the first laminate;

a second laminate having a second conductive element embedded into the second laminate wherein a portion of the second conductive element forms at least one contact pad extending beyond a surface of the second laminate; and

a bonding layer between the first and second laminates, ~~whereby such that~~ the contact pads of the first and second conductive elements are electrically connected, wherein the bonding layer comprises conductive metal filled epoxy.

38. (Currently amended) A method of forming a conductive path within a laminate, comprising the steps of:

providing ~~the laminate~~ a conductive element;

projecting ~~[[a]] the~~ conductive element toward a surface of the laminate ~~such that the conductive element moves toward the laminate, wherein the conductive element becomes embedded within the laminate;~~

impacting the surface of the laminate by the conductive element, wherein said impacting forms a hole in the laminate such that the entire conductive element provided in the providing step becomes embedded within the hole.

39. (Currently amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the conductive element is a sphere.

40. (Canceled)